

Rothwell Farm Barn
North side of Route 458,
one fifth mile west of the
intersection with Route 42
Middletown Vicinity
New Castle County
Delaware

HABS No. DE-227

HABS
DEL,
2 MIDDTOWN,
6 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Delaware	COUNTY New Castle	TOWN OR VICINITY Middletown vicinity
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Rothwell Farm Barn (Beers' <u>Atlas of Delaware</u> , 1868)		HABS NO. DE-227
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Located on the north side of route 458 approximately one fifth mile west of intersection with Route 42		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Mid 19th century (construction)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The Rothwell Barn stands as one of the finest examples of the type of agricultural architecture built during the agricultural reforms of ca. 1830-1870. In plan, it incorporates all processing and storage functions under a single roof.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Braced frame post-and-rail construction covered with vertical board siding. Uncoursed fieldstone foundations. Common bond brick forebay piers.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangular: approximately 100 feet by 50 feet.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The Rothwell Barn includes a bridge house leading into the main body of the building. The house contains a central ramp and flanking corn cribs. The west and north forebays are mid 19th-century additions. All doors and shutters are of milled board-and-batten construction.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) The axis of the barn parallels the ridge with a broad central aisle open to the roof and flanking side aisles under cantilevered trusses. The west addition makes use of a king post truss to support the broad roof span. The roof span in the main barn is carried on through purlins.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The primary additions and alterations to the barn date to the mid 19th century and were undertaken shortly after the first period of construction. These include round log post supports for the cantilevered trusses in the main barn and the addition of a west wing and west and north forebays.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Currently abandoned on the main floor with large sections of roof and walling in deterioration. Ground level used for vehicle sheds.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) D.G. Beers, <u>Atlas of the State of Delaware</u> 1868; Cultural Resource Survey, DE. Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Bernard L. Herman, Asst. Director, Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering, Univ. of Delaware		DATE May 1985.